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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

PATEL, AJIT

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2664

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/421,771

Applicant(s)

REGULA, JACK

Examiner

AJIT G. PATEL

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 91-154 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 91-98, 108-121 and 136-148 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 99-107, 122-135 and 149-153 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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1. Claim 132 should depend on claim 128 or 131 to provide the antecedent base in claim.
2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 91-98,111,113-116,121,139,141-144,154 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hutchison et al (5,327,534).108-110,112,117-120,138,140-148

Regarding claim 91,95, Hutchison et al disclose a multiport LAN bridge incorporating the steps of capturing the address from the bus (lines 25-49, col. 9); converting the address into a value stored in the routing tag (lines 25-49, col. 9).

Regarding claim 92, 96, Hutchison et al disclose the step of accessing the value from a first address memory (fAMCAM) after assertion of the address to the fAMCAM (lines 25-32, col. 9).

Regarding claim 93,97, Hutchison et al disclose the fAMCAM comprises a first register that defines an address window on the bus (lines 25-49, col. 9).

Regarding claim 94,98, Hutchison et al disclose the step of storing a configuration value in the first register (lines 40-57, col. 5); broadcasting the configuration value to the second node for storage in the second register (lines 40-57, col. 5).

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Regarding claim 111,139, Hutchison et al disclose the limitation of sending a response cell by second node to the first node (lines 105, col. 3; lines 39-47, col. 3).

Regarding claim 113,141, Hutchison et al disclose the limitation of “generating at least one transfer attribute from the bus operation and including the at least one transfer attribute within the cell” (lines 52-64, col. 3).

Regarding claim 114,142, Hutchison et al disclose the limitation of “the cell is read-initiate cell, an interrupt transition cell, a read response cell, a write-initiate cell, or a write-response cell” (fig. 8).

Regarding claim 116,144 Hutchison et al disclose the limitation of “automatically initializing the fAMCAM responsive to one or more operations on the bus” (lines 34-66, col. 12).

Regarding claim 121,154, Hutchison et al disclose the limitation of “determining whether the value identifies the host node and broadcasting the cell dependent on the step of determining when the value does not identify the host node” (lines 40-51, col. 5).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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5. Claims 108-110,112,117-120,138,140-148 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hutchison et al in view of Caspi et al (5,546,385).

Regarding claims 110, 112, 117, 138,140,145, the bus of Hutchison et al fail to disclose that the bus is PCI bus. Caspi et al disclose a communication system which comprises PCI bus which connects the peripheral components for communication among a variety of input/output components such as communication and graphics co-processors. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use PCI bus as taught by Caspi et al in the communication system of Hutchison et al for connecting the users for communication.

Regarding claims 119,120,147,148, Hutchison et al fail to disclose sliding window technique. The sliding window technique is well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use sliding window technique in the system of Hutchison et al in order to control the flow of data.

6. Claims 99-107,122-135,149-153 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 305-3988, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 305-3988 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021 Crystal Drive,
Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AJIT PATEL whose telephone number is (703) 308-5347. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WELLINGTON CHIN can be reached on (703) 305-4366. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9314.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377 .

AJIT PATEL

November 30, 2003


Ajit Patel
Patent Examiner